

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1264. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law the report of a rule entitled "Rates for Pilotage on the Great Lakes" (RIN1625-AE38) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1265. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law the report of a rule entitled "Security Zone; Fifth Coast Guard District" (RIN1625-AA87) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1266. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law the report of a rule entitled "Regulated Navigation Area: Humboldt Bay Bar Channel and Humboldt Bay Entrance Channel, Humboldt Bay, California" (RIN1625-AA11) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1267. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations: Severn River, College Creek, Weems Creek and Carr Creek, Annapolis, MD" (RIN1625-AA08) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1268. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations: Rowing Regattas, Indian Creek, Miami Beach, Florida" (RIN1625-AA08) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1269. A communication from the Chief, Regulations and Administrative Law, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulations (Including 2 Regulations): [CGD08-05-011], [CGD01-05-017]" (RIN1625-AA09) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1270. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulations Governing the Conduct of Open Seasons for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects (Order No. 2005) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1271. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's 2004 Annual Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1272. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maine; NOx Control Program" (FRL No. 7881-2) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1273. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; State of Arizona, Maricopa County Area; Technical Correction" (FRL No. 7879-3) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1274. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Deadline for Storm Water Discharges for Oil and Gas Activity That Disturbs One to Five Acres" (FRL No. 7882-2) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1275. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tennessee: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision" (FRL No. 7883-5) received on March 14, 2005; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. DOMENICI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 97. A bill to provide for the sale of bentonite in Big Horn County, Wyoming (Rept. No. 109-37).

S. 252. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land in Washoe County, Nevada, to the Board of Regents of the University and Community College System of Nevada (Rept. No. 109-38).

By Mr. DOMENICI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 253. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to the land to the Edward H. McDaniel American Legion Post No. 22 in Pahrump, Nevada, for the construction of a post building and memorial park for use by the American Legion, other

veterans' groups, and the local community (Rept. No. 109-39).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 611. A bill to establish a Federal Interagency Committee on Emergency Medical Services and a Federal Interagency Committee on emergency Medical Services Advisory Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 612. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to award the Combat Medical Badge or another combat badge for Army helicopter medical evacuation ambulance (Medevac) pilots and crews; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 613. A bill to establish the Steel Industry National Historic Site in the State of Pennsylvania; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 614. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to permit medicare-eligible veterans to receive an out-patient medication benefit, to provide that certain veterans who receive such benefit are not otherwise eligible for medical care and services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DAYTON:

S. 615. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill by establishing an enhanced educational assistance program and by repealing the requirement for reduction in pay for participation in the program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 616. A bill to inform the American public and to protect children from increasing depictions of indecent and gratuitous and excessive violent material on television, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 617. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Army to carry out the dredging project, Menominee Harbor, Menominee River, Michigan and Wisconsin; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. LOTT, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 618. A bill to amend section 1951 of title 18, United States Code (commonly known as the Hobbs Act), and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SPECTER, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. DODD, Mr. DAYTON, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 619. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DEWINE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. DODD, and Mr. REED):